

Standing Committee's views : It has been the policy and plan scheme of the National Archives of India to acquire from abroad microfilm/xerox copies of material bearing on modern Indian History irrespective of their being newspapers, journals, letters etc. Other institutions may be encouraged to do the same, provided duplication is avoided. The Government of India may lend its weight in this behalf.

Proceedings : The resolution was discussed and the President, Dr. P. C. Chunder, stated that there were large number of papers in the country having different degrees of importance and enjoying varied standing. The house agreed with the Secretary that National Archives of India be given suggestions regarding journals or other material which deserved high priority in this regard. This was supported by the Chairman and the following resolution was passed unanimously.

Resolution II : "The Indian Historical Records Commission hereby appeals to learned societies, research institutions and State Governments to take special steps to preserve and maintain journals in Indian languages published during the nineteenth century and requests the members of the Commission to take an initiative in the matter whenever possible."

D. Provision for a separate research room for the research scholars in the State Archives

(4) Resolution by Shri J. Tewari

"Resolved that provision for a separate Research Room be made for Research Scholars in State Archives in order to facilitate their research work as well as to improve the working condition of the personnel of the State Archives".

Explanatory Note : Utilisation of records in the Archives by the different Research Scholars coming both from India and abroad, is one of the important activities of any Archives. The Research Scholars come to the Archives in order to consult records bearing on their respective subjects of research. They have to finish their project within a certain specified period. They cannot work well and utilise their time properly unless there is suitable seating accommodation and environment for them. In this regard the Research Room of the National Archives of India may be considered to be an ideal. It has become all the more imperative in view of the fact that with the introduction of M. Phil by the University Grants Commission, and dissertation programme by certain Universities as well as greater importance attached to Ph. D., and research work in the field of teaching lines, the number of Research Scholars has automatically multiplied, and would go on increasing. To accommodate a number of Research Scholars and the personnel jointly at one very little space does not appear to be suitable to either of them. So even in the absence of a separate Archival Building which may be practically a time-taking affair, some suitable accommodation with requisite amenities in proportion to the average number of Research Scholars may be separately arranged.

It is, therefore, requested that the Indian Historical Records Commission may consider this difficulty, and recommend to the State Governments for making provision for a separate Research Room for Research

Scholars which would be highly beneficial not only in the interests of the Research Scholars, and the personnel of the Archives, on the contrary this would serve the pious cause of learning as a whole in its manifold facets.

Standing Committee's views : This resolution relates to matters of administration and as such should be the concern of the respective State/ Central Government.

Proceedings : While some members expressed the opinion that this was a minor administrative matter to be settled by each State Archives with its own Government, others felt that the resolution concerned an important facility required by all research scholars. The President expressed the opinion that the resolution was un-exceptionable and if passed, would strengthen the hand of the Archivist and would carry weight with the State Governments. The resolution was then passed unanimously.

Resolution III : "Resolved that provision for a separate Research Room be made for Research Scholars in the State Archives in order to facilitate their research work as well as to improve the working condition of the personnel of the State Archives".

E. Incentive for training in Archives-Keeping

(5) Resolution by Shri J. Tewari

"Resolved that both the National Archives of India and the State Archives be requested to make provision for better emoluments in the form of advance increments, special allowance, better pay-scales, promotions, etc. to the personnel after obtaining Training in Archives-Keeping in order to give encouragement for joining the training, as well as for better performance of archival duties later on".

Explanatory Note : The National Archives of India has been doing a very commendable service to the cause of the Archives in general by imparting training in Archives-Keeping since 1947, for which there is provision for conferring Diploma, First Class and Pass, according to the performance of the trainees in the examination concerned. The full fledged syllabus is based on the model of the Archives in the progressive countries of the West. For this training both private candidates from outside as well as candidates sponsored by the State Archives are taken in. Besides, One Year Diploma Course, there is a Short Term Course also. After undergoing the arduous Training of Diploma in Archives-Keeping for one year, and leading a hard life in Delhi, the Archivists and other Officers get no encouragement in any form, whatever the brilliant result might be. The result is that on successful completion of the training, the Officers feel discouraged. It has been seen that they remain where they were. If the matter is taken on comparative basis, it becomes not only all the more abundantly clear but pitiable also for the Archivists. In all other organisations there is adequate provision for such performances. To cite a few examples, in Secondary Education, there is provision of incentive in the form of allowance, and better pay scale for Dip-in-Ed. Then again in Higher Education also, a suitable allowance is awarded for Ph.D. and the promotion of Reader and Professor, and now even the appointment of the Lecturers is defined on that score.